to, the annual proper motions of the stars in the present catalogue are obtained. A table is given, which contains such of them as appear to have proper motions not less than 0″·1 of arc; they amount to 35. The following are those whose annual proper motions exceed 0″·4.

Star.	Total Annual Proper Motion.	Annual Proper Motion in Right Ascension (in Time).	Annual Proper Motion in Decl.
	″	sec.	″
α Centauri	3·58	− 0·464	+ 0·82
β Hydri	2·17	+ 0·716	+ 0·29
α Canis Majoris	1·34	− 0·034	− 1·25
θ Centauri	0·79	− 0·047	− 0·54
γ Pavonis	0·74	+ 0·013	+ 0·73
ε Scorpii	0·69	− 0·050	− 0·29
α Phœnicis	0·47	+ 0·014	− 0·44
β Trianguli Australis	0·44	− 0·030	− 0·40

II. Observations on the Appearance of the Comet of 1843, made at Cape Coast Castle, on the Coast of Africa. By G. Maclean, Esq. President of the Colony. Communicated by Captain Beaufort, R.N., Hydrographer to the Admiralty.

The comet was first seen at Cape Coast Castle on the evening of Friday, the 3d of March, at about a quarter to seven. Part of its tail only was then visible, bearing W.S.W., and making an angle of about 70° with the horizon, towards the south. It was of the same brightness throughout, and its breadth, which was little more than a degree, so far as it could be seen on account of both extremities being concealed by clouds, was also uniform.

March 4. This evening the whole of the comet was visible, although no nucleus could be distinguished. Its head, or what appeared to be so, almost touched the horizon, near the star *iota* in the tail of the whale; and its tail extended about 22° from that point in the direction of the constellation *Columba Noachi*.

March 5. Several glimpses of what appeared to be a nucleus were perceptible through the telescope of a theodolite. It appeared as a bright point, of the colour of *Venus*, but exceedingly small. Being invisible through the telescope of the sextant, distances could not be ascertained with any degree of precision.

March 6. The appearance of the comet was the same as the preceding evening. March 7, the brightness of the head and the length of the tail were much increased, the latter extending upwards of 34° in the direction of the constellation *Lepus*. Several stars were visible to the naked eye through the tail. On the 9th and 10th, the appearance of the comet was much the same as on the 7th; on the 17th it was visible, but the nucleus was very indistinct. The tail extended about 43° in the direction of *Sirius*.

March 19. This night was clear, and the outline of the comet

very plainly marked. The bright spot or condensation in its head was distinctly perceptible to the naked eye. On the 22d, although the sky was very clear, the nucleus was with difficulty perceptible, from which it appeared that the comet was increasing its distance from us with immense rapidity. The tail terminated midway between the stars ζ, η, and θ *Leporis*, and κ *Orionis*.

After this time the comet decreased in brightness and size every night. On the 23d its tail was about 38° in length; on the 26th about 35°, reaching a little past κ *Orionis*. Through ordinary land-glasses it still appeared as if there was a condensation of brighter matter in the centre of the head. The comet continued visible on clear nights till about the 10th or 12th of April, appearing as a thin haze; but after the 1st no observations could be taken with the sextant.

The following are the observed distances of the comet from *Sirius* and *Aldebaran*. They are given without any correction, just as they were read off from the sextant; and the observations were made about seven in the evening.

Day.	Distance from Sirius.	Distance from Aldebaran.	Day.	Distance from Sirius.	Distance from Aldebaran.
1843.	° ′	° ′	1843.	° ′	° ′
March 3	94 15	69 45	March 19	54 24	34 7
5	90 35	67 12	22	50 0	30 42
6	87 18	63 51	23	48 22	29 51
7	83 48	60 36	26	44 53	26 40
9	77 37	54 30	27	43 39	25 40
10	73 50	51 57	28	42 45	24 59
17	58 50	37 52	29	40 58	24 28
18	56 16	36 50	April 1	38 8	22 58

III. Extract of a Letter from J. R. Crowe, Esq., British Consul-General of Norway, to Dr. Lee, dated Alten, February 22, 1844. Communicated by Dr. Lee.

"The observatory at Alten, as you are aware, is the most northern in the world. We shall very shortly commence the series of preparatory transit observations you suggest. We had intended to have done so before; but the cold, since the sun revisited us on the 2d instant, has been so intense that we have not been able; the eye was no sooner brought near the glass than the latter was covered with a coating of ice. It was even dangerous to touch the metal. The thermometer has been varying from 24° to 28° below zero of Celsius, that is, from 12° to 20° below the zero of Fahrenheit, or from 44° to 52° belowing the freezing point . . . . It will be interesting to see what the minimum thermometer will exhibit at the top of the Storvandsfeldt by the end of next month. We shall then attempt the ascent, as by that time the surface of the snow becomes so hard as to bear walking upon with impunity."